SACRED DANCE GUILD
JOURNAL
www.sacreddanceguild.org
SPRING 2006
VOLUME 48, NUMBER 3

A Regional Festival 2006: We Come Dancing with Dance Legends Matteo and Mary Anthony

By Betsy O'Neill, M.A., President, New York/SW Connecticut Chapter

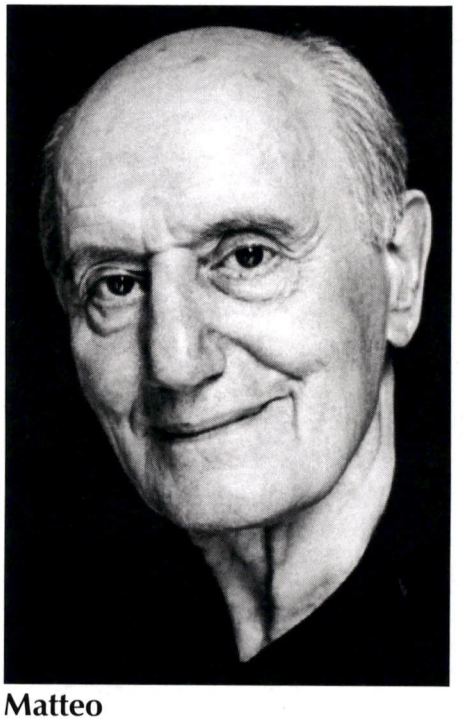
As a part of the Sacred Dance Guild's Regional Festivals 2006, the New York/Southwest Connecticut Chapter is presenting a special workshop: "We Come Dancing with Dance Legends Matteo and Mary Anthony." This historic event to be held at St. Stephen of Hungary Church in New York City on Sunday, April 30 (1:45-5:30 p.m.) will feature master classes and a panel with those two honorary life members of the Sacred Dance Guild. Concurrently a workshop for youth, "Kids Come Dancing," will be facilitated by Reverend Ruby Wiles.

Mary Anthony is recognized as one of the pioneers of the modern dance movement and is an acclaimed dancer, choreographer and teacher. She taught at the Sacred Dance Guild's early festivals, along with Ruth St. Denis and Ted Shawn. Mary opened her studio to be "a place where people could find their physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual center." She founded the Mary Anthony Dance Theatre in 1956 which has performed throughout the United States, including Hawaii and Tanglewood. Following the premier of the signature work "Threnody" (1956), Louis Horst wrote "Here is the most beautiful and complete dance composition this observer has seen." In 2000 she was honored with the Distinguished Teacher Award at the American Dance Festival. She continues to teach at her studio in New York City.

Matteo is renowned as a dancer, teacher, choreographer and dance scholar of ethnic dance, especially the dances of India and Spain. He was acclaimed in *The New York Times* as "the most versatile performer in the field of ethnic dance." He earned an MA in Dance Education from Springfield College. Under the auspices of the United States State Department, he and his late partner and wife, Carla Goya, toured extensively. Matteo introduced the study of ethnic dance forms at the High School for the Performing Arts in New York City. He taught at early Sacred Dance Guild Festivals and received special honors at Festival 1994. He is the author of four books, including *The Language of Spanish Dance* (1990). In 2000 Matteo and Carola Goya were named by the Dance Heritage Coalition as one of America's first 100 Irreplaceable Dance Treasures.

Sacred Dance Guild Festival 2005 at Connecticut College was graced with Mary Anthony's presence and illuminated by her teaching. She shared memories of the very first Sacred Dance Guild Festival held in 1958 at Jacob's Pillow, Massachusetts. Both Ruth St. Denis and Ted Shawn were there. Mary clearly remembers Miss Ruth admonishing SDG attendees not to do what she saw as "put dances." It was not enough to just put your hands here and then there in some position. Miss Ruth insisted that every gesture had to have meaning behind it.

Mary's master class will be a modern dance technique class at the fundamental/basic level. Matteo's master class, "Your Trinity Within," will explore the concept of finding the self within by way of mudras, the hand gestures of classical Indian dance. Concurrently in another room you will have the option of learning fun dances taught by their peers in "Kids Come Dancing!" facilitated by Reverend Ruby Wiles. Ruby is the pastor of Calvary Lutheran Church and a long time member of the Sacred Dance Guild. Mary and Matteo will also share about their lives in sacred dance on a panel moderated by Betsy O'Neill. After this full and fabulous afternoon participants are invited to a nearby family style Italian restaurant to share a meal and fellowship.



Matteo

President's Letter

Dear Fellow Members,

In our Strategic Planning discussion in 2003, when our leadership group was asked to come up with seven "core values," one of them was Inclusiveness. You may say, "Well, of course, the Guild is an interfaith organization." But it's not that simple.

Inclusiveness happens on many levels and in many ways. We all appreciate the variety of offerings at a Festival. Many of us are grateful that the sense of quality in the Guild has a place for those of us who have little or no technical training. There are ways for everyone to dance, including those in wheelchairs. There are many ways to include the young and the old. Yet to be true to our intentions in all these matters, we must always pay attention to what we are doing.

There are other ways in which inclusiveness is important in the Guild.

First, our Board should represent the inclusiveness of the Guild by having a wide range of people serving on it; different backgrounds, different styles, different skills. And different ideas!

For the first time this year we have a Youth Director. And in the coming year we will have a young person filling this role, which will add a perspective we really can't do without. This is an important step forward.

Second, we need to continually seek ways to meet the needs of members wherever they are. People join the Guild for many reasons, but most of them involve a desire to make connections with others. We have nine active chapters, each with its own style and programming, but many of you are not in chapters. For decades we have tried to connect people geographically, but this has only worked when people could meet face to face.

A truly inclusive Guild will provide ways to connect for many different interest groups within the broad area of sacred dance. Do you want to find others in your denomination or other sacred tradition? Others who are attempting a similar ministry to the world? Others who are focusing on dance as peacemaking or as a healing art?

We have the means and skill to set up networks, primarily through elists. Let your area of special interest be known, either through the allmembers elist, or through a note in the Journal or on the website Comments page.

Ellen Young
EllenSDG@cs.com

(To join the allmembers elist, email: Connie@deephum.com)

Photo by Mary Jane Wolbers

On November 25, 2005, at the Unitarian Universalist Church, Peterborough, NH, members of Skyloom danced, sang, and played handbells at a Memorial Service for Mary Johnson. From left to right are Sybille Voltz, Shirley Blancke and Ruth Lieberherr. See article on page 6.

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-Sacred Dance Guild Journal published three times a year
-Membership Directory with geographical and leadership listings printed annually
-Calendar of Events published in the Journal and online with regional, national, and international activities
-Membership in Chapter or Region with local events and activities
-Reduced fees at the International Festival held annually in different locations within the United States
-Reduced fees at Guild workshops and those of reciprocal organizations
-Reduced cost for all Guild publications
-Opportunity to be listed as a resource in the Online Resource Database
-Opportunity to create your own website to be linked to the SDG website
-Ability to sign up for email reminders for events listed on SDG Event Calendars
-Opportunity to be part of the All Members elist where sacred dance issues, concerns, and ideas are shared among members from all over the world

Subscription and membership orders should go to Sacred Dance Guild, PO Box 1046, Laurel, MD 20725-1046.

Deadlines for JOURNAL: August 1, November 15 and March 15. Deadlines for the Events Calendar are the same as for the Journal. Articles of 500 words or less, ance activity, Chapter/Region/membership news, letters and black and white/color photographs should be sent by deadline dates to: Sacred Dance Guild Journal: journal@sacreddanceguild.org or Toni' Intravaia, Editor, 201 Hewitt, Carbondale, IL 62901.

EDITORIAL

We are now counting days until either Spring Break or Easter - depending where you live and what are your needs. As I perused the material sent in either by computer or by snail mail, I found some very interesting material for sharing with SDG members.

The Sacred Dance Guild is now listed in the June 2006 Dance Annual Directory.

Although Margaret Taylor Doane was not one of our founders, she certainly was one of the early/continuing greats. And, as most of you know she left a legacy not only of dance and dance literature but also a grant of $1000 to be used for our sacred dance youth. As of this moment, I do not know the decision as to the winners of this year's grants of $100 to $350. The winners will be announced in the Fall issue of the Journal.

From Connie Tyler: "The words of Connie Tyler's Dark Winter Song printed in the Winter Journal come from a chorale to SATB, harp and drum that she wrote in 2000. The harp part can also be played on a piano. Anyone who is interested in reviewing the music for possible performance can contact Connie at connie@deephum.com or write to Connie Tyler, 2322 8th Street, Berkeley, CA 94710. The words and music, of course, are copyrighted material. Please contact Connie for permission before using them in a performance."

A quote from Sacred Dance Guild Newsletter Spring 1973 issue: "a Sanskrit prayer: May the divine self inspire you; And the light of the soul direct; May you pass from darkness to light, From the unreal to the real, From sickness unto health, From death to immortality. Peace, peace, peace."

I am truly looking forward to launching into this issue with the theme "We All Come Dancing!" With many of you member sacred dancers, this spring issue should be overflowing!

Please continue to send your news, as well as dates for the Calendar of Events, to journal@sacreddanceguild.org or Toni' Intravaia, Editor, 201 Hewitt, Carbondale, Illinois 62901, and send your news from chapters to Emmalyn Moreno, PO Box 357, San Luis Rey, CA 92068 and from regions to Patricia Bowen, 32 Fairbairn Street No. 2, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1S 7A3. The deadlines are August 15, November 15, and March 15.

Letters to the Editor

From Connie Tyler

Thanks to Karen's class on writing Biblical drama, a piece of music I had intended to be a song, ended up being a mini-opera! And now it's going to be performed! It will be at the end of May in the Fresh Voices Festival in San Francisco. SDG had an integral part in it too, because I worked hard to get the first part finished in time for sharing in New Hampshire. Some of you may remember that my Bridget danced and sang to some music of mine about the Goddess Brigid that summer. And it must have been that summer that you gave the class at PSR, Karen. Anyway, there will be three performances! And my Dove piece that I danced last summer will be performed at a smaller concert at the same Festival! Feels like a big break through! Oh, Doug Adams will have to take some of the credit since I finished the music and we did a read through of it in his class that fall. I guess that it was fall....my memory being what it is, it's all one big blur...And SDG member Sylvia Miller-Mutia sang Brigid's part in that class.

From Lakita

My name is Lakita. I am pleased to be a part of the O'Fallon Apostolic Assembly and wanted to formally introduce myself. I am the founder of Paneh praise dance and mime ministry. We operate out of O'Fallon, Illinois (near St. Louis area) but will go wherever called. I also serve as the children and teen praise dance leader at my church. I love dancing unto the Lord and I love networking with other dance ministers.

I don't know if anyone in SDG is from the St. Louis area, but I wanted to let you all know that the children's praise dancers (JOYED UP) will be celebrating their first anniversary service.

From Sue Wheeler

Saw photos of the SDG Festival 2005 at Conn College this summer. Lovely! The group I belong to is The Jubilation Dancers Liturgical DanceGroup from United Methodist Church of Gales Ferry, Marcia Miller, coordinator and choreographer. I had signed up for the Sunday session only, as that was the day I could make it. I was excited to hear about the presenters you had that day. However, I never made it, being a patient in the neuro-unit of both Hartford Hospital, then a local hospital, Lawrence and Memorial, from June 23 to July 25, after suffering a cerebral hemorrhage on June 23 which wiped out part of my cerebellum, the part of the brain responsible for balance, timing and force

Continued on page 9

IN THIS ISSUE

A Regional Festival 2006.....1

President's Letter.....2

Editorial.....3

Letters to the Editor.....3

Theme - We All Come Dancing!.....4

Louisiana Dancers "Turn Mourning to Dance"
by Betty Wooddy.....4

Sacred Dance in Colorado Springs
by Jennifer Finn.....4

Brigham Young University Dance Company Shares Light in Southeast Asia
by Rebecca Wright Phillips.....5

Catholic Liturgical Dance Advocacy
by Kathryn Mihelick.....5

Outstanding Artist in Dance.....6

Mary Johnson (1915-2005).....6

International Dance Day.....6

We Will Dance
by Suzanne Gorman.....7

Joyfully Skimming Across the Floor
by Joann Flanagan.....7

Sacred Movement Group of Phoenixville, PA
by Karin Goodman.....8

Everyone's A Dancer
by Jeannine Bunyan.....8

Regional Festivals.....9

SDG Memorial Endowment.....10

Recommended Reading/Viewing.....11

Annual Giiving.....12

Grace Parker.....12

Memos from the Minutes.....13

SDG Chapter/Regions News.....14

SDG Calendar.....16

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WE ALL COME DANCING!

Louisiana Dancers "Turn Mourning to Dance"

By Betty Wooddy

"Turn Our Mourning to Dance" was the theme of the Lenten Dance retreat held in Baton Rouge, Louisiana and sponsored by Alleluia Dance Ensemble and The Sacred Dance Guild. Dancers from New Orleans, Covington, and Baton Rouge gathered on March 4th, 2006 to share their grief and hope through dance.

Mary Christine O'Connor-Thomsen led participants in a movement meditation which began with reflections of hope drawn or written by each individual. A symbolic Mississippi River composed of recent newspapers was laid across the floor.

Dancers moved across and through the river carrying their symbols of hope. The meditation became an improvisation of deluges of water and human misery as each dancer choreographed their words of hope into movements.

Symbols of hope were torn and scattered over the area until finally a time of silence was broken by the reading of Psalm 30 with the reminder that while "weeping remains for a night, rejoicing comes in the morning."

Promises of hope encouraged dancers to begin gathering torn and crumbled papers which they carried to a large wooden cross.

With masking tape these bundles were placed on the cross, which was then lifted and processed around the room ending beside a large brass bowl of water.

As the waters were reconsecrated by individual expressions of restoration and hope, the group gathered in silence around the cross and a large brass bowl of water. Spoken individual reflections provided a prayful closing to the morning.

Participants in the dance retreat - Baton Rouge.

Warm and sunny weather permitted the afternoon session to be held in the church garden under a live oak tree. Each group created movements for prayers which had been written for use at the afternoon liturgy.

These prayer movements were presented during the 4 P.M. liturgy by members of the Alleluia Dance Ensemble and Mary Christine. The service with 400 communicants concluded the Lenten retreat " turning our mourning to dance."

Sacred Dance in Colorado Springs

By Jennifer Finn

Colorado Springs has many opportunities for sacred dance. First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, Colorado Springs had many of these events. We have a group that dances together every Saturday morning. We follow Gabrielle Roth's 5 Rhythms (learn more at www.gabrielleroth.com.) This group includes women and men and has been dancing a spiritual practice over the past year. We host monthly movement workshops exploring many things including the chakras and emotions through movement led by Diane Henn of Boulder. Some in this group have weekly classes using movement and dance as a sacred practice, to better understand and explore a deeper intimacy with the Divine.

This month on March 12th we had our first annual Family Dance, where all are invited to attend and dance together, participate in art projects like body drawings and share a meal together. Next month we will have Melissa Michaels and friends down from Boulder to lead an all-day workshop with live music. On April 10th, we will be holding an event called "Dance with Jesus" where we explore the wholeness of the life of Jesus through scripture, dance and movement. This will be the first event of it's kind in our community.

We hope to invite other Christian communities to explore this relationship with Jesus during the Lenten season in a very unique and intimate way. Our hopes for this year are to continue to dance in community and carry our movement outdoors, dancing in our beautiful Rocky Mountains and beyond. We are deeply grateful for movement as it connects us to our bodies in an authentic, intimate and sacred way. Learn more about our moving community at www.dancingsprings.org or contact Jenny Finn via email at jennyfinn@pcisys.net.

Brigham Young University Dance Company Shares Light in Southeast Asia

by Rebecca Wright Phillips, Artistic Director, The Dancers' Company, Brigham Young University

"Let Your Light So Shine..." (Matt. 5:16) was the Brigham Young University Dancers' Company theme as they prepared to travel to Southeast Asia this past Spring. Their prayer was that they could prepare themselves to be worthy to share light with those they met and performed for in Thailand, Cambodia and Taiwan. For one year they rehearsed, studied about the cultures of the countries they would visit, and prepared spiritually through devotionals, prayer, and scripture study. The sixteen university students did feel the hand of God as they preformed concerts, taught workshops, and presented at evening worship services throughout Southeast Asia. Their concerts were full of beautiful, powerful, and sometimes even humorous dances that were meant to not only impress but to bless those that saw them. Above all they hoped to share a message of hope through their dances. The young dancers greeted audience members after every performance with smiles, handshakes, and exchanged a few phrases in a new language. Whitney Wheadon, one of the ensemble said about meeting the people, "It was so great to look into their faces and see the light in their eyes. They were our brothers and sisters."

The concert closed with a spiritual piece called, *Ascendance*. The dance was choreographed with Thai silk representing the love of the Savior. After reading an inspiring story of a young boy who lost his entire family but survived the terrible Killing Fields era and in his search for healing became a Christian, the dancers wanted to create a piece that would give hope and healing to the people who had gone through so much in their war torn and poverty stricken country. During the dance the blue silk is passed from one dancer to another weaving wonder and color through space. Eventually a young man drapes a large piece of fabric on the arms of a young woman. He leads her through a beautiful dance as she discovers her newfound beauty and grace. He, in essence, gives her wings to fly. As one who had recently recovered from a serious illness, this dance was also a personal way for me to express my gratitude to God for His "healing wings." One young woman, a traditional Cambodian dancer, said with tears running down her face, "This is the first time I see God in dance." One family in Taiwan, after seeing the concert and the joy of the dancers told missionaries, "we want what they have." They have since become Christians.

A highlight was a visit to an orphanage in Phnom Penh. The dancers worked hard doing school assemblies during their vacation time to raise money for rice to feed Cambodian children. While at the orphanage the dancers blew bubbles, made balloon animals, danced, and sang for the orphaned children and found joy in seeing the children's faces light up. Much to our surprise some of the children were able to attend the company's concert that night and their delighted laughter filled the convert hall. Most of them had never seen any sort of concert before. Many of the dancers performed with tears in their eyes as they danced their testimonies for these children. The dancers nervously sang a familiar Sunday School song, "I Am A Child of God," in Khmer at the end of the concert, hoping to be able to share a message with the orphans in attendance. In a wonderful moment the Cambodian people who had learned the song from missionaries joined in on the chorus and the hall was completely filled with the beautiful words of faith.

Catholic Liturgical Dance Advocacy

By Kathryn Mihelick

Hello Friends,

As we enter into the Lenten Season today with a special prayer and fasting we become more deeply aware of Our Lord's redeeming sacrifice on the Cross for us. And we offer ourselves back to Him, mind-body-spirit, in every way possible. As you know, I pray one of these ways will some day include our embodied prayer in worship. With this in mind, I thought it might be time to give you another update on the surveys and information I've collected about the extent of the liturgical dance ministry in our country. As of today, 3/1/06, I've received testimony showing that dance has been incorporated into the liturgical worship of 189 Catholic parish churches and in an additional 28 Catholic conference venues, retreat centers, monasteries, and convents, totaling 217 in all. These churches and institutions are spread throughout a total of 130 cities, located in 34 of our states.

This information has been gathered from several sources and, I'm sure, is not exhaustive, but at least it gives credibility to the contention that dance/movement must be having an impact as a viable form for worship in our country. Once again, I want to thank you for contributing information for this statistical record. If any one of you has information you have not yet sent to me – or anything to add to what you have already forwarded, please email me. This is part of the information I'll be sending to the Liturgy Committee of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops for their June meeting agenda.

I'm also in the process of gathering and preparing some additional information which Bishop Trautman (USCCB Liturgy Committee Chair) has informed me would be helpful to the committee. One of these is testimony of the impact of dance in Roman Catholic worship in cultures where dance in the liturgy has been more "closely experienced and examined" (i.e. African, Asian, Hispanic, etc.). I have made several contacts regarding this. If any of you are in touch with someone from another culture who might be helpful in this search, please let me know.

There is one final statistic to share with you. With the recent addition of three more friends to our list, we now total 123. Welcome to the newcomers, and let's keep it "moving," folks.

Peace and Blessings,
Kathryn

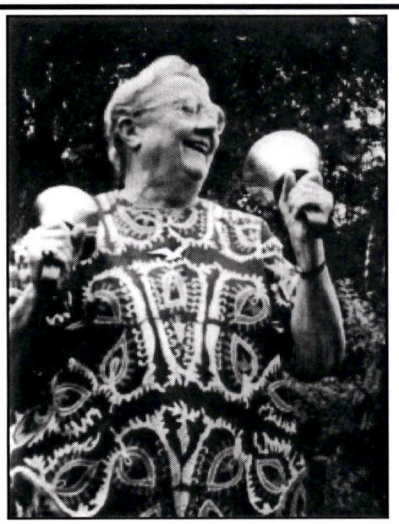
Outstanding Artist in Dance

From Award Winner Profiles, November 12, 2005

In 1992, after retiring as assistant professor and coordinator of the Kent State University Dance Division, Kathryn Mihelick founded Leaven Dance Company. Kathryn is director of this professional ensemble committed to using dance as a "vehicle for exploring and developing spirituality, wellness, healing, justice and peace." It performs in churches, institutions and conferences nationally and internationally.

An accomplished and talented artist, Kathryn has been a scholar and practitioner of sacred and liturgical dance for over 25 years. She was one of five American dancers awarded an Asian Arts Council grant to introduce western sacred dance at the 1991 International Dance Research Conference. Four years ago when she received a fax from the Vatican saying liturgical dance could not be performed in her church sanctuary, she took up the challenge to change a 1975 canon law. Her position paper on Issues of Sacred/ Liturgical Dance was the basis of discussion at the 2005 U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. She is spearheading an advocacy effort to procure Rome's affirmation of the validity of liturgical dance as an appropriate form of worship.

Kathryn received a 1999 International Sacred Dance Guild Award and was honored in 2003 by the Ohio Dance organization for outstanding contributions to the advancement of the dance art form.



Mary Johnson (1915-2005)

By Mary Jane Wolbers

Mary Johnson, a charter member, President (1964-1966), Archivist (1986-1992) and supporter of the Sacred Dance Guild was remembered by family, friends, and colleagues at a Memorial Service on November 25, 2005. The service was held in the Unitarian Universalist Church in Peterborough, New Hampshire.

Mary was a long-time member of that church, its Women's Alliance, and prime mover of its hand bell choir. She promoted the dance choir which was introduced by Avis-Ann Parke (the Sacred Dance Guild's first Vice President) during David Parke's pastorate there. Mary was also active in community arts, scouting and theatre, and was involved in hand writing and tutorial programs offered by Warren Johnson, her husband.

Family and friends spoke of nostalgic and humorous times shared with her, and the impact she had on their lives, during "A Time of Remembrance." There were numerous readings, congregational singing, a musical interlude (Satie's "Gymnopedie") and appropriate selections from scripture.

Three members of Skyloom - Shirley Blancke, Ruth Lieberherr, and Sybille Volz - danced, sang, and played hand bells in "Go Now In Peace," a work created for the service. Their offering was both a celebration of Mary's participation in Sacred Dance and a homage to her expertise with hand bells.

The service concluded with "Peterborough Ring" in which members of Mary's family played her White Chapel bells. A reception followed; family, friends and congregation socialized and complimented the dancers on their contribution to the program.

International Dance Day CID

On the 29th of April, as every year since 1982, World Dance Day was celebrated all over the world by the international community of dancers and dance enthusiasts.

The International Dance Council CID prepared the following guidelines as a useful checklist for persons institutionally involved in the wider field of dance: teachers, choreographers, group leaders, journalists, researchers, associations, suppliers, organizations etc.

The main purpose of Dance Day events is to attract the attention of the wider public to the art of dance. Special emphasis should be given to addressing a "new" public, people who do not follow dance events during the course of the year.

Dance Day events may be special performances, open-door courses, public rehearsals, lectures, exhibitions, articles in newspapers and magazines, dance evenings, radio and TV programs, visits, street shows etc.

Events are primarily organized by dance companies, amateur groups, schools, associations and other institutions active in dance. Wherever possible, it is better for events to be organized jointly with a non-dance institution such as a government agency, a public school, a municipality, a business enterprise, a trade union.

Organizers have full freedom to define the content of the event.

Make sure to include general information on the art of dance, its history, its importance to society, its universal character. This can be done in a short speech, a note in the program, a text distributed to those present. By adding this dimension you make the event different from dance activities taking place any other day.

Read a message from a prominent personality, a poem, a passage from a text by a famous author.

We Will Dance

by Suzanne Gorman

From every tribe, and tongue and people and nation; all who dwell on the earth will worship Him (Revelation 13:7).

On Wednesday, May 24th, 2006, at 7PM there will be a worship dance/signing presentation at Colgate University Chapel, in Hamilton, New York, entitled, "We Will Dance".

This event involves corporate worship and gives a message of the Bridegroom and His Bride (Ephesians 5:27, Revelation 19:7).

It is an evening of unity in Christ (Psalm 133, I Corinthians 12:12-14) and is an evangelistic outreach.

It is a worship and signing picture of the glorious Bride dancing for her Beloved: an awesome picture of Covenant love! Israel was God's first Bride. The presentation uses Jewish symbolism and Biblical representation of the wedding. There will be an opportunity for unsaved friends and family to "accept" the invitation of the Marriage Supper of the Lamb after the dance had ended.

As leader of this dance team, I am asking that you support this endeavor in several ways:

~ PRAYER

~ Attendance and encouraging others to attend! It is a Vision for Central New York to unite worshippers!!!

"We Will Dance" is a project that was first conceived and danced in 1998 at Randallsville New Life Church, Hamilton, NewYork.

In 2003 the first Community presention was held: May 24, 2003, Colgate University Chapel, Hamilton, NY.

This year, 2006, we hope to incorporate even more area churches in the worship presentation, and fill the chapel as we celebrate and worship together as one body in Jesus Christ.

The Purpose: To strengthen and encourage love for the Lord Jesus in the body (Bride) of Christ through worship using all the creative arts: song and dance, instruments, artwork, tambourines, banners, flags, and all manner of Godly creative expression.

This is an evangelistic outreach. We are encouraging each participant to pray for salvations and invite unsaved friends.

I am blessed and honored to be the leader of this project, and as you know, it takes much energy effort, prayer, and perseverance!!! There is a spiritual battle when we join together to dance and worship corporately and we as dancers must never underestimate how important it is to pray, and fast, as called to, for the dances we present. It is a honorable calling to glorify God in our dance projects, and I believe comes with a high accountability to be led by the spirit and not the flesh.

It is with joy we enter this season of hope. The picture of the Bride of Christ is a glorious one, especially suited for May in upstate New York, when the weather frees us and the scent of lilacs are in the air.

We would love to have you come support "We Will Dance".

Joyfully Skimming Across the Floor

By Joann Flanagan

Joyfully skimming across the floor and trailing brightly colored scarves, my dancers were portraying the strong blowing wind as we re-enacted the Pentecost lesson from Acts II, verses 1-22. They then danced and whirled across the room with the scarves of red, orange and yellow as they became the 'tongues of fire.' I have taught this lesson at many sacred dance workshops and for worship services, but never before have I witnessed such joy and delight on the faces of my dancers as they experienced the freedom to run and leap and dance in all directions.

Arranged by Sacred Dance Hawaii Chapter President, RuthMarie Quirk, the workshop included a time for Sharing, and the learning of "May the Peace of the Lord be with You", with choreography by Kathryn Mihelick and Andrea Shearer. I had learned this dance from Kathryn and Andrea at Festival '02 in Rindge, NH, and have since been teaching it and presenting it at several workshops and worship services.

The next morning, five of us danced "May the Peace" at Calvary by the Sea Lutheran Church for their Sunday morning worship service. We were honored that RuthMarie's 83-year-old mother, Ruth, danced right along with us.

We wore lovely calf length gowns of various iridescent colors, which were provided by RuthMarie. The play of lustrous colors of these rainbow colored dresses coordinated with the early morning sun dancing on the surf, for behind the altar of Calvary by the Sea, one can watch the rolling waves of the Pacific through ceiling high glass doors and windows. On this day, surf-board riders were frolicking on the waves, and we also noticed several people in the water who were gathering octopuses in small pails!

It was a grand privilege to teach a sacred dance workshop while my husband and I were visiting Hawaii, and a pleasure to dance for the worship service at Calgary Lutheran.

Photo by Mary Jane Wolbers

Vivian, Matteo and Mary Jane in New York City on September 28, 2005.

Sacred Movement Group of Phoenixville, PA

By Karin Goodman

The Sacred Movement Group (SMG) of Phoenixville, PA, with three regular members (two are Constitution Chapter Sacred Dance Guild members) and guest participants danced twenty-three times at twelve different worship services or gatherings, using different dances from our repertoire. Five of the worship gatherings were part of our outreach goal in the greater Phoenixville area. The people we met in the community were excited that worship dance exists and desired more.

SMG thanks First Presbyterian Church Worship and Music committee for the cost of new dance outfits. We would like to thank the Sacred Dance Guild for providing sacred dance education opportunities for our sacred dancers over the years. Special thanks to God for His inspiration and guidance in creating and sharing of dance offerings.

Were You There, sung a ccapella, was a poignant and simple dance which emanated waves of emotion through the congregation. Two dancers flanked a "Jesus figure" dancer who experienced crucifixion, death, and resurrection.

El Shaddai, Hebrew for "God Almighty," had fluid movements reminiscent of Hebrew circle dances.

God is Light, simply expressed through American Sign Language and facial expressions, illustrated the deep connection to our Lord, The Light of our Path.

We Will Glorify, a banner processional glorifying the King of Kings as the Great I AM on Christ the King Sunday, used American Sign Language and movements based on the attributes of God as seen in the Hebrew Tetragrammon of YHWH (mountain, pillar, gate and light). These movements, combined with other danced representations, linked the Old and New Testament, and reinforced our Trinitarian view of God.

Shalom, a meditative danced prayer, used specific movements ascribed by the Hebrew Kabbalists to each of the Hebrew letters spelling "shalom" (peace). Judaism has always regarded Hebrew as a sacred language, the medium of divine communication, and its letters are no ordinary forms. To dance the sacred language is prayer. *Shalom* movements were learned at the 2005 Sacred Dance Guild Festival in Connecticut.

The Ministry of the Dancer is to share in the work of the Lord's. The Dancer is to come filled with the song, the word and the silence of prayer so that it overflows in prayer movement. The Dancer prays with the whole self. The Dancer remembers that the danced prayer is a unique giving of one's whole self in the Lord service.

The SMG ministry has been wonderfully blessed this year! We pray that you were too.

Everyone's A Dancer

By Jeannine Bunyan

I had a friend who was an inspiration to me because being a "prisoner" of polio did not keep her alert mind from participating in life. She was a staunch supporter of Movement Ministry, always appreciative of any offering our group made to enhance a worship service. When we were called upon to offer a procession on Commitment Sunday, I called to ask if she would like to be part of our procession With her usual hearty laugh she exclaimed, "Oh Jeannine, come on now, you know I can't dance." (I need to mention here that the only mobility Barbara had, was one of her right hand to operate the toggle switch that steered her wheelchair.) My answer was, "Oh come on now, you know that you are my "Barbara with the Dancing Eyes!" Chuckling with amusement she asked, "Well, what would I have to do?" After explaining that all she would have to do was to come down the aisle, and stop center, facing the Cross, she agreed.

Sunday morning arrived and processing smoothly forward were: a little family group with babe in arms of mother and toddler holding hand of father, three teenagers, a "mentally challenged" young man accompanied by his sister, a husky black man, a petite Japanese woman, and a lovely elderly woman with snow-white hair. The movements were very simple and repetitious which the group had learned easily by meeting a half hour early. Even so, I was astonished when an "inspired" woman from the congregation, rose spontaneously from her pew and joined what she thought was the end of the procession. (Little did she know that Barbara was yet to join.)

The plan was for the various groups to pose on chancel steps, facing the Cross with backs to congregation, while Barbara was to end at foot of Cross looking up. As I wondered, "What will Barbara do now?" - Spirit's miracle of Movement Ministry occurred once again. When Barbara arrived at her planned position, she took note of the new unbalanced arrangement of poses on the chancel steps. What then did Spirit lead Barbara to do? Well, she spun full circle with wheelchair, then backed off to the unbalanced side, still looking up at the Cross!

The spiritual impact on the congregation was truly awe-inspired, tears in many eyes. It was not just that Barbara had participated, but by including a group of various ages and abilities, the message was abundantly clear - "We are all equal before God! - and - Everyone's A Dancer!

New York/SW CT Chapter.

Executive Board 2004-2005

President: Ellen Roberts Young
Vice-President: Stella Shizuka Matsuda
Recording Secretary: Annmarie Pittman
Corresponding Secretary: Lucy Knopf
Treasurer: Jolyn Walker
Membership Director: Connie Tyler
Program Director: Karen Josephson
Chapters / Regions Director: P. Merle Wade
Resources Director: Kathlene Pettycrew
Development Director: Kathryn Mihelick
Journal Editor: Toni' Intravaia

Board-at-Large

Archivist: Mary Jane Wolbers
Directors at Large:
2002-2005:
Kathleen LaCamera, Tamara Mingo
2003-2006:
Yvonne Ng, Vivian Tai

Executive Board 2005-2006

President: Ellen Roberts Young
President-Elect: Stella Shizuka Matsuda
Vice-President: Mary Katherine Greenlaw
Secretary: Annmarie Pittman
Treasurer: Jolyn Walker
Chapters Director: Emmalyn Moreno
Festivals Director: Karen Josephson
Development Director: Barrie Gibby
Membership Director: Ruth Richardson
Public Relations Director: Patricia Woodbury
Regions Director: Patricia Bowen
Resources Director: Kathlene Pettycrew
Web Communications Director: Connie Tyler
Youth Director: Toy True
Journal Editor: Toni' Intravaia

Standing Committee Chairs

Archivist: Mary Jane Wolbers
Awards: Ann Pomeroy

The Sacred Dance Guild, a nonprofit international corporation founded in 1958, provides members with information and opportunities for enriching their faith through movement and dance.

Sacred Dance Guild
Annual Report, 2004-2005

Welcome, sacred dancers and friends, to the first Annual Report of the Sacred Dance Guild. We've created this document to give you an inside view of the many diverse steps that keep our organizational dance flowing smoothly. Our fiscal year 2004-2005 was an exciting year to report on for our first annual report. There were many new developments, not all of which were visible to the membership.

The fall of 2004 completed our first year of "mini" or regional Festivals. Through events of different sizes in many parts of the country, over 400 people were able to get a taste of the Festival. During 2004-2005 we completed the drafting of new bylaws. This process began with a Strategic Planning meeting in 2003. The new bylaws set up a larger Board to share the work load more efficiently with a more orderly succession process. In addition, for the first time we have a Youth Director on the Board. This expresses and builds a focus on youth which we've wanted to develop for some time now.

One important change in our bylaws was to separate the leadership for Chapters from that for Regions. It was high time we officially recognized that people who are members of chapters experience the Guild very differently from those who are not. Chapters hold local events which allow members to become acquainted and share their work with one another. Those who are not in Chapters often are totally isolated from other members. The new Regions Director is charged with encouraging relationships across distance among our "unchaptered" members.

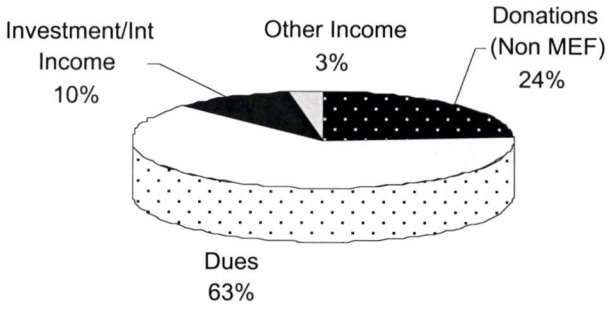
Also, 2004-2005 was our first year with part-time contracted staff assistance. Mariner Management is providing professional support that translates to building a stronger financial and organization framework which in turn supports the board in leading the Guild into the future. While today SDG can afford this professional support only on a part-time basis, it is a critical function that allows the board and committees to be more effective.

This annual report is part of another strategic planning initiative: a more directed approach to development and outreach. At each annual meeting the President gives a report on "the State of the Guild." Through this document we want to share the state of our organization with all of our members, friends, and other interested parties.

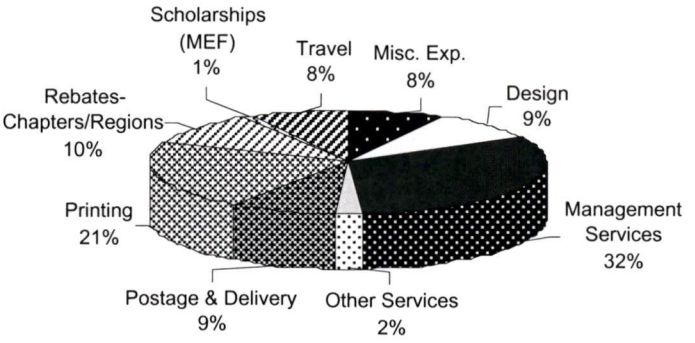
Ellen Roberts Young, President

Financials

Operating Income FY '04-05



Operating Expenses FY '04-05



Operating Income/Expense Statement - FY '04-05

Income	
Donations - Operating	$7,588.00
Dues	$17,254.00
Interest Income	$89.57
Investment Income	$859.23
Other Income	$755.00
Total Income	**$26,545.80**
Expense	
Board Expenses	$2,903.83
Design	$2,640.00
Management Services	$9,000.00
Office Expenses	$1,150.24
Other Services	$865.00
Postage & Delivery	$2,410.08
Printing	$6,010.38
Rebates to Chapters/Regions	$2,862.00
Total Expense	**$27,841.53**
Net Income	**$(1,295.73)**

Balance Sheet - June 30, 2005

Assets	
Total Checking/Savings	$98,439.89
Other Current Assets	
Festival Loans Receivable	$5,356.30
Investments - MEF	$57,657.97
Investments - Operating	$5,999.03
Total Other Current Assets	$69,013.30
Total Assets	$167,453.19
Liabilities and Equity	
Liabilities	
Due to Chapters/Regions	$2,830.72
Memorial Endowment Fund	$62,610.90
Festival 2005 Payable	$52,029.50
Scholarships Payable	$1,044.00
Video Project Payable	$3,662.67
Total Liabilities	$122,177.79
Equity	$45,275.40
Total Liabilities and Equity	**$167,453.19**

Our Mission

The Sacred Dance Guild promotes sacred dance as prayer, and as a means of spiritual growth, connection to the Divine, and integration of mind, body and spirit.

Festivals

History

Festivals are the primary activity of the Guild. An International Festival is usually held during the summer, usually in July. In 2004 the people who had assumed responsibility for the Festival were unable to follow through. This led to a creative solution of smaller Festivals in various locations. Eight **"mini-festivals"** were held, of various formats, lengths and successes. These regional events also generated more new Guild members than one large Festival. It was, therefore, decided to alternate these with one traditional International Festival.

When the Guild undertook restructuring, the Program Director became the **Festivals Director**, now responsible for oversight of all Festivals. (In 2004, this was primarily the responsibility of the Chapters and Regions Director.)

With the addition of a Guild **Administrative Assistant** in 2004, many of the clerical duties for Festival 2005 were assumed by the central office, freeing up the local team to spend more of its energy on the creative planning. It was decided that in the future the Administrative Assistant will be a part of all International Festivals, and by contract with two-three day Regional Festivals.

Future

In 2007 the International Festival will be in Northern California. Planning has already begun. In 2008 the Guild will celebrate its Golden Anniversary. In celebration of that there will be a number of Festivals, large and small, throughout the continent. It is also hoped that in 2008 the Guild will hold its first official event outside the North American continent.

Karen Josephson, Festivals Director

Membership – 2004-2005

Regular Members		
US	447	
International	35	
Total		482
Group Memberships		
US	22	
International	1	
Total		23
Honorary Members	20	20
Life Members	20	20
Total		**545**

In addition, the Guild has 35 organizations on our Journal Exchange list.

Development

Several categories of gifting to the Guild have been in practice for numerous years. Typical of all nonprofits, the annual dues fall short of the income needed for efficiently operating the organization. The most important area of needed support is in our operations. Contributions to our operating fund in 2004-2005 totaled $7,588. While we should be proud of this year's accomplishments we must be ever mindful of the shortfall we face each year.

An **Annual Fund** appeals letter is mailed every year to help augment the budget. In addition, other giving opportunities are in place for contributions. **The Memorial Endowment Fund**, established originally in 1963 to honor the much beloved member Ruby Henderson, is a fund set up to receive gifts in honor or in memory of Guild members, the interest of which generates scholarships to Festival. **The Colley Ballou Video Fund**, established in 2003 with seed money in Colley's memory, is designated for a Guild promotional video. The newest opportunity of **Planned Giving** of investments or property is available upon request. Unrestricted gifts are always acceptable.

In addition to regular donations, we received a gift of $1,000 from **Margaret Taylor Doane** shortly before she died in the fall of 2004**.** This donation will avail the Guild to better serve our youth through an experimental grant program in 2006.

In expanding development opportunities in this competitive market, the Guild is challenged this current year with goals to enhance the Planned Giving process, nurture more donors, and seek grant sources that cater to our niche. With your continued support, we look forward to increasing the visibility and viability of the Sacred Dance Guild that makes us strong stewards of the Guild's resources and in securing its future.

Barrie Gibby, Development Director
Jolyn Walker, Treasurer

Some of the Festival '05 Team (left to right): Sybille Volz, Ruth Lieberherr, Jolyn Walker, Peggy Arthur, Shirley Blancke, Elaine Sisler, Karen Josephson, Betsy O'Neill, Eva Herndon, Lucy Knopf, Sally Carlson Crowell, Ann Pomeroy and L'Ana Burton.

Find Your Regional Festival and Dance!

Once again, as in 2004, Regional Festivals are being scheduled across the continent of North America. Check the website under Calendar of Events for the latest updated details. The general theme is "We Come Dancing." The first of these events have already been held in Illinois and Louisiana. See the article about its success elsewhere in the Journal. Plan to attend one of the following:

April 30, 2:00-5:30 in New York City
We Come Dancing with Dance Legends Matteo and Mary Anthony
For details see the New York/SW CT Chapter Calendar
Call 212-535-4235
Email DanceSWoo@aol.com

June 23-25 in Fredericksburg, Virginia
For details see the Potomac Chapter Calendar
Call 540-373-6105
Email mkgreenlaw@cox.net

July 2-8 in Dowagiac, Michigan
We Youth Come Dancing
The first ever all youth festival.
For details see the Michigan State Calendar
Call 269-424-3697
Email dancewithtoy@aol.com

July 22 in Toronto, Canada
(In conjunction with the World Dance Alliance Global Assembly)
For details see the Canadian National Chapter Calendar
Call 613-726-1375
Email wendy.morrell@sympatico.ca

August 4-5 in New London, Connecticut
For details see the Connecticut State Calendar
Call 203-469-4277
Email karen98jos@aol.com

October 6-7 in Phoenixville, Pennsylvania
(In conjunction with a liturgical arts festival)
For details see the Constitution Chapter Calendar
Call 856-262-7763
Email pettycrewkd@yahoo.com

Other possible festivals include:

May 6 or November 4 in Colorado
For details see the Rocky Mountain Chapter Calendar
Call 970-848-2549
Email djrutledge@hotmail.com

Autumn in Southern California
For details see the Southern California Chapter Calendar
Call 805-484-0606
Email cathysaine@earthlink.net

Letters to the Editor

Continued from page 3

of movement, and proprioception (where the body is in space). Most necessary for a dancer. Still battling that with PT after six months and may always do so. So instead of gliding, doing arabesques, three point turns, and soutenoues, I lumber, stagger, clutch and tread timidly, turning slowly in wide arcs to maintain balance. I hardly feel like myself anymore. Used to pride myself on my balance. Thank God for all that experience – train your core to be strong, the foundation for balance. At the time you all were having your festival, I was clomping about with a walker and a gait belt. I will keep trying, and hope that some day I can resume dance, although now it seems almost unattainable, as to follow the movement of an arm from uplifted to side or center really throws me. Also took a hit in the voice department, and got what they call ataxic dysarthia, meaning voice is harsh and somewhat monotonal, and rapid, slurred on occasion – no more choir either. Both a large part of my identity since I semi-retired from nursing. Anyhow, what I learned from all this is never take a day for granted, or the ability to dance. One can praise God in many ways but none feel as complete as Sacred Dance. God bless you all. Keep floating!

Mary Anthony as Lady Macbeth. She will be a special part of the "We Come Dancing with Dance Legends on April 30, 2006.

Let's Set the Record Straight About the Sacred Dance Guild Memorial Endowment Fund

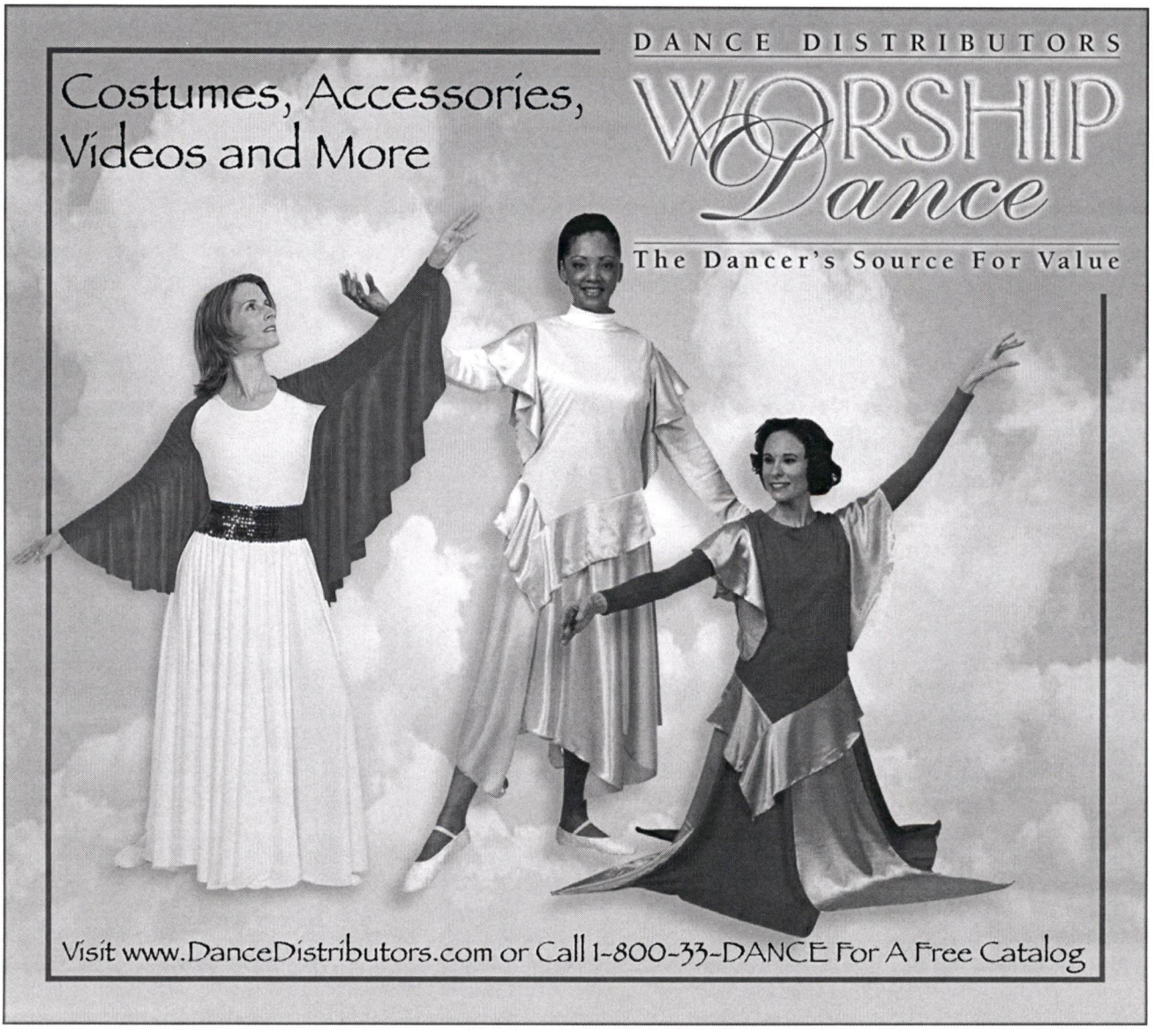
By Mary Jane Wolbers, Historian and Guild Archivist

Ruby Henderson, a highly respected and dearly beloved Guild member, died in September 1962. The Guild Executive Board set up the Ruby Henderson Memorial Fund in February 1963 to honor her memory. Money had already been received in the four months since her death and its use had been informally discussed.

Archived records clearly document that the Reverend Robert Storer, an Executive Board member, was the Fund's proponent. He advocated that the interest from the invested Fund be used as a source of scholarships for male theological students wishing to attend the Guild's annual Institutes (now called Festivals). The Board did not support a proposal that would restrict awarding of scholarships to a specific gender or population. The Fund was established by vote of the Executive Board at the meeting only after Storer acquiesced; the scholarships would be awarded on an egalitarian basis.

I was present at that historic, lively debate concerning the use of the Fund. It is understandable that Bob was deeply concerned about exposing male theological students to sacred dance. In that era, women students usually had prior experience in dance, which facilitated their acceptance of it as a religious art form. On the other hand, he knew it was undemocratic to insist on a "for males only award" (besides, he was outnumbered). We reminded him that Ruby would rest in peace knowing that the Fund in her memory would be democratically administrated.

When Bob Storer died, the name of the Fund was changed to the Memorial Endowment Fund to receive all future donations honoring members or members of their families. It is my hope that the Guild's Director of Development will design a planned giving document confirming a member's wish to be remembered through donations to the Memorial Endowment Fund.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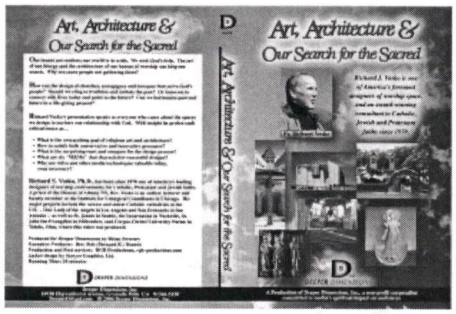
RECOMMENDED READING/VIEWING

For Connie Fisher's Dancing with Early Christians and other books you might like to purchase, write Doug Adams, The Sharing Company, 6226 Bernhard Avenue, Richmond, CA 94805-1658.

For *And We Have Danced* Volumes I and II write Toni' Intravaia, 201 Hewitt, Carbondale, Illinois 62901. The cost of both volumes is $30.00 including postage and handling. Editor's note: These are the history of the Sacred Dance Guild and should be in the hands of all members. Volume I was written by Carlynn Reed and Volume II was written by Toni' Intravaia. They make great gifts.

"Art, Architecture & Our Search for



the Sacred," a DVD, will be sent soon to every member of the active Catholic hierarchy in the U.S., and to interested clergy, media and liturgy professionals of various faiths. It is produced by Deeper Dimensions, a small non-profit corporation whose mission is to advance the spiritual impact of the media on people. It is their belief that integrating media with other arts used in worship can greatly benefit us all.

Now in Second Printing: *Soul to Sole with Seniors* edited by Margaret Taylor Doane and Jeannine Bunyan. This is a sourcebook for adding movement to hymns and Christmas Carols with choreography suggestions by Sacred Dance friends of Margaret.

In honor of their mentor, all ten authors: Bunyan, Tu, Schlegel, Friedrich, Carlson, Grimm, DeSola, Adams, Branigan, and Blessin, have graciously designated all royalties from this book to go to the Margaret Taylor Doane "Endowment For Dance in Worship and Education" at Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, Ca. This makes possible semester courses for students pursuing M. Div. and M.A. degrees with emphasis in liturgical dance.

To order send $17.00 (S&H included) to Jump for Joy Publishing, Attn: Jeannine Bunyan, 9639 Langdon Avenue, North Hills, CA 91343-2104.

The Sacred Waves, the Newsletter of the Sacred Dance Guild Ottawa Chapter is one of the newsy periodicals that your Editor receives. It comes out twice a year and is sent to over 800 people. It publishes events and is artistically printed. If you are interested, send a note to Gail Guy, 1240 Clyde Ave., Ottawa, Ontario, K1 Canada.

Appreciating Dance by Harriet R. Liks, a Dance Horizons Book, available from Princeton Books, P.O. Box 831, Hightstown, NJ 08520. The chapters on "Origins and Definitions" and "Dance and Religion" are commendable.

"Denishawn Dances On!" and "Denishawn" in DVD format, documenting the work of Ted Shawn and Ruth St. Denis, have just been released. Both are available from Princeton Book Co.

Advertise in the SDG Journal

Ad per ONE (1) issue
One-half page.....$100.00
One-quarter page.....60.00
One-eighth or business card..40.00

Ad per THREE (3) issues
One-half page.....$275.00
One-quarter page.....150.00
One-eighth or business card..95.00

Classified Ads and Personals
1-10 words.....5.00
11-20 words.....8.00
21-30 words.....13.00
31-40 words.....17.00

For information or assistance in placing an ad, please contact Deena Sherman at Deenabess@yahoo.com

Notice of Annual Meeting

The Annual Membership Meeting of the Sacred Dance Guild will be held Saturday, August 5, 2006, during lunch at Connecticut College, New London, CT.

The primary business of the meeting will be the election of Officers and Directors and a report on the state of the Guild.

For further information, contact Ellen Roberts Young, President EllenSDG@cs.com 505-532-9239

Annual Gifting 2005-2006
"Gift of Giving – Dance of Hope"

By now, all members should have received an appeals letter for annual giving. The letter focused on awareness of global crises and our power as sacred dancers to join strong hands to move the world toward wholeness and light. The donations and response have been generous, and the goal of enhancing our operating budget has been partially fulfilled through your gifts.

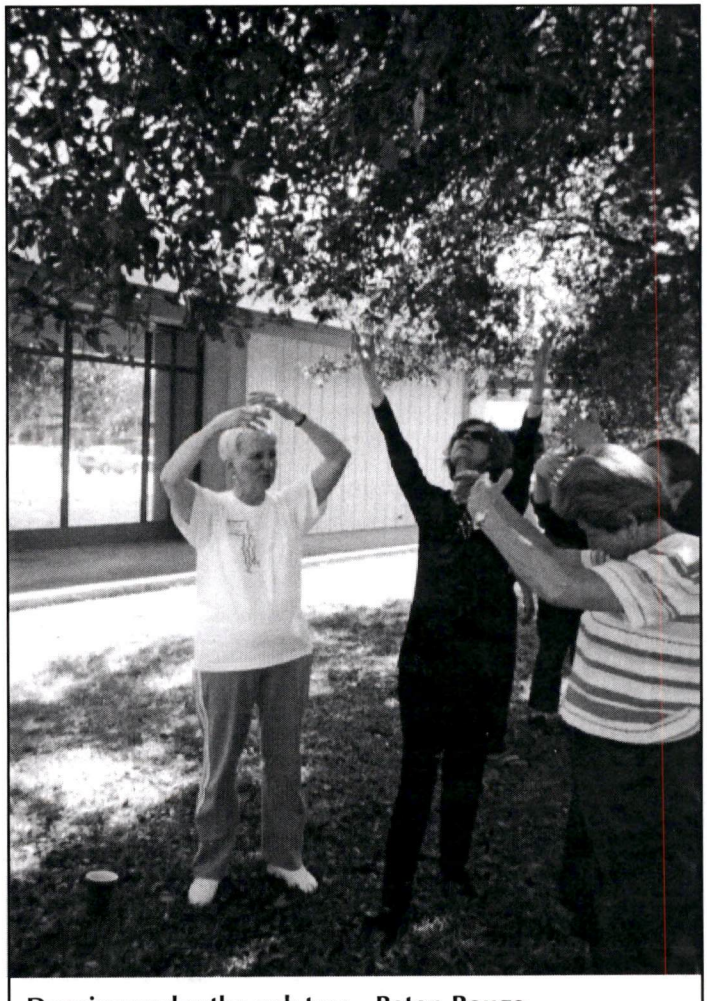
Typical of all nonprofits, the annual dues fall short of the income needed for efficiently operating the organization. You will see from the enclosed Annual Report for 2004-2005 that the Guild dues covered only 64% of all yearly income, most of which is applied to operations separate from the Festival.

The Annual Fund gift-giving opportunity remains open for this fiscal year. You may give to the Annual Fund; or also to The Memorial Endowment, honoring a beloved member, the interest of which generates scholarships to Festival; or to The Colley Ballou Video Fund, designated for a Guild promotional video. If you would like to add your contribution, you may pay through the website, sacreddanceguild.org, or send your check to: Sacred Dance Guild, PO Box 1046, Laurel, MD 20725-1046.

Barrie Gibby
Development Director

Grace Parker
January 12, 1922 - November 11, 2005

Another of our longtime SDG members has joined the celestial terpsichore. Grace Parker danced away from the earth November 11, 2005 after a long illness. She was an active member of the New York/Southern Connecticut Chapter, and integral to the planning of the 1987 Festival at Sarah Lawrence College in Bronxville, New York. The words that structured her life were "Do justice; love kindness; walk humbly with God." Everything Grace did was connected with her passion for peace, social justice, care of the environment, and the full inclusion of all persons in the life of the church and the structures of society. As the Director of the Ecumenical Center at Union Theological Seminary in New York City she provided support for overseas students at Union, arranged studies abroad for American students, and hosted ecumenical and overseas guests and lectures at the seminary. As a lover of sacred dance and the wife of a Methodist pastor she started sacred dance groups in the churches they served. Her challenge to us now would be to dance for justice and kindness with humility.



Dancing under the oak tree - Baton Rouge.

MEMOS FROM THE MINUTES

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, NOVEMBER 4 & 5, 2006, CLAREMONT, CALIFORNIA

Attendees: Ellen Young- President; Stella Matsuda - President Elect; M. K. Greenlaw - Vice President; Annmarie Pittman - Recording Secretary; Karen Josephson - Festivals Director; Connie Tyler - Website Communications; Emmalyn Moreno - Chapters Director; Toy True - Youth Director; Peggy Hoffman - Administrator; Cathy Saine - President, So CA Chapter SDG; Jim Maynard - So CA Chapter Representative; Evelyn Okamoto - So CA Guild Member (November 5 only).

Proxies Received: Toni Intravaia, Jolyn Walker, Kat Pettycrew and Patricia Woodbury.

Cathy Saine to act as proxy for Toni Intravaia and Jim Maynard to act as proxy for Jolyn Walker.

Evelyn Okamoto to act as proxy for Kat Pettycrew on Saturday, November 5.

AGENDA: A MOTION was made by Stella Matsuda and seconded by Karen Josephson to approve the Agenda with the following additions: Add Margaret Taylor Doane Grant Follow Up after Festivals; Add the Ring and Denise's Books under Development. Add Directory under Journal. - CARRIED.

EMAIL VOTES since last meeting:

1. A motion made by Kat Pettycrew and seconded by Connie Tyler that the Guild cover the cost of travel so that our consultant staff person could attend the Fall 2005 meeting was approved by email on September 4, 2005.

2. The minutes of July 20 & 21, 2005 Executive Board Meeting were approved by email vote on October 3, 2005. (Motion made by Karen Josephson and seconded by Jolyn Walker.)

REPORTS: Annmarie Pittman MOVED & Stella Matsuda seconded, a MOTION to accept the reports of the President, President Elect, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, Web Communications, Program Director, Development Director, Resource Director, Public Relations Director; Chapters Director, Regions Director, Journal Editor, SDG 2005 Festival Committee & Administrator as distributed CARRIED

IMPLEMENTING THE BYLAWS I:

Policies: The following changes to SDG Policies were discussed and action taken:

Policy Item I. 3. E. - A MOTION was made by M. K. Greenlaw and seconded by Karen Josephson to change the wording to: Contributions to the Fund shall be acknowledged by the SDG Administrator. CARRIED

Policy Item II.5. - A MOTION was made by Stella Matsuda and seconded by M. K. Greenlaw to discontinue granting honorary membership to past SDG presidents. CARRIED

Policy Item III. 5. - A MOTION was made by Emmalyn Moreno and seconded by Connie Tyler to require chapter reimbursement checks be sent no later than October 1 to Chapters having filed their reports by July 15, following the fiscal year being reported. CARRIED

Policy Item VII. 1. - A MOTION was made by Karen Josephson and seconded by Stella Matsuda to reword this item as follows: The Annual Membership Meeting shall be held in conjunction with the Sacred Dance Guild International Festival in years when an International Festival is held. In years when no International Festival is held, the Annual Membership Meeting shall be held in conjunction with a Regional Festival or other event chosen by the Board of Directors. CARRIED

JOURNAL RATES: After discussion a MOTION was made by Emmalyn Moreno and seconded by Stella Matsuda to establish a rate $35 per year for Journal subscriptions for non-members. CARRIED

THE SDG LOOK: The Board discussed the need to be consistent in our public face A discussion regarding the modification of the logo was held. A MOTION was made by Stella Matsuda and seconded by Cathy Saine (proxy for Toni Intravaia) that the PR Director, Pat Woodbury, along with Connie Tyler and Wendy Morrell review our overall look and report back to the Board. CARRIED Another MOTION was made by Connie Tyler and seconded by Jim Maynard (proxy for Jolyn Walker) that the logo be prepared in a high resolution format and that the administrative staff person ensure that this is done. CARRIED

THE RING: The ring is in the possession of Kathryn Mihelick. A MOTION was made by Evelyn Okamoto (proxy for Kat Pettycrew) and seconded by Karen Josephson that the ring be offered in an appeals letter this fall for a donation of $1,000. If it does not sell in that way, it will be offered on the SDG web site in conjunction with Denise's books. CARRIED

OFFICERS LIABILITY: The question of Directors and Officers Liability Insurance was also addressed. A MOTION was made by Connie Tyler and seconded by Stella Matsuda that Officers and Directors Liability Insurance be investigated by the Administrator. CARRIED

THE SDG'S ROLE IN THE INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL REVISITED: The Board came to a consensus that the Board will be available to assist the Festivals Committee with input from the Treasurer, Development Director, PR Director, Web Communications Director, as well as offer Ad advice. In addition a MOTION was made by Toy True and seconded by Karen Josephson that the International Festival is a program of the SDG and as such the Board will assume oversight responsibility. The organizing body will shape the festival . The administrative costs will be built into the Festival budget and 10% of the net proceeds will be given to the organizing body. CARRIED

REGIONAL FESTIVALS AND THE SDG REVISITED: After discussion regarding how to share the Grant expenses for Festivals A MOTION was made by Connie Tyler and seconded by Karen Josephson to set the criteria at a 50/50 share. CARRIED The specifics of this will need to be clarified in further discussion.

BROCHURES: After discussion a MOTION was made by Stella Matsuda and seconded by Karen Josephson to have 3,000 updated brochures printed. It was suggested that a copy of the brochure be sent with the January 2006 Journal.

DATA BASE UPGRADE: Peggy Hoffman, SDG Administrator reported that the cost of upgrading the data base would be $4,000. The dollars would come from the 2005 Festival surplus which is approximately $14,000. A MOTION was made by Cathy Saine (proxy for Toni Intravaia) and seconded by M.K. Greenlaw that the data base upgrade to cost $4,000 be approved. CARRIED

Respectfully submitted

Annmarie Pittman
Recording Secretary

SDG CHAPTER AND REGION NEWS

Lakeshore Chapter

"Dancing Not Just for Sunday: Making Dances that Do What They Say" workshop on September 24th explored how dance can help connect the words and actions of liturgy with the daily action of our bodies in the world. Warm-up improvisations focused on awareness of our bodies in space in relation to others. Using biblical texts whose meaning is action explored group structures such as unison movement in a tight group or solo against group. We discussed the use of structures in the aisles and sanctuaries of worship spaces as well as on a concert stage, pursuing a dialogue about the relationship between performance and public prayer. Maggie Kast of the Lakeshore Chapter moderated this workshop. Maggie is the recipient of the Chicago Dance Coalition's Ruth Page Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Dance Community.

On February 25th the Lakeshore Chapter held a Mini-Festival: A Day of Workshops with Susan Bradford-Smith, Mary S. Walther, and Deena Bess Sherman. The workshops included choreography, flags and tambourines, the use of expression and emotion in sacred dance, and sacred dance and story-telling. The Sacred Dance and Story-Telling workshop focussed on working with young people (age 7 and up) using Bible stories and traditional songs both for spiritual educational settings and for worship. Mary Walther explored the use of flags and tambourines in enhancing worship. In the choreography workshop Deena discussed the process of creating and teaching choreography to a group. They worked on the challenges of different types of groups, styles of groups and worship settings.

What do Chicago's famous Museum of Contemporary Art, the City of Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs, and Links Hall, a major venue for emerging dance companies in the city, have in common? All three are fellow grant recipients with the Lakeshore Chapter of the Sacred Dance Guild!

This January, members of the Chapter were thrilled to hear that Lakeshore received a grant from the Chicago Seminar on Dance and Performance (CSDP), as part of its inaugural cycle of New Grants. As the CSDP noted in announcing the recipients," All four grant recipients will further the CSDP mission of promoting public conversation on dance and other genres of physical performance."

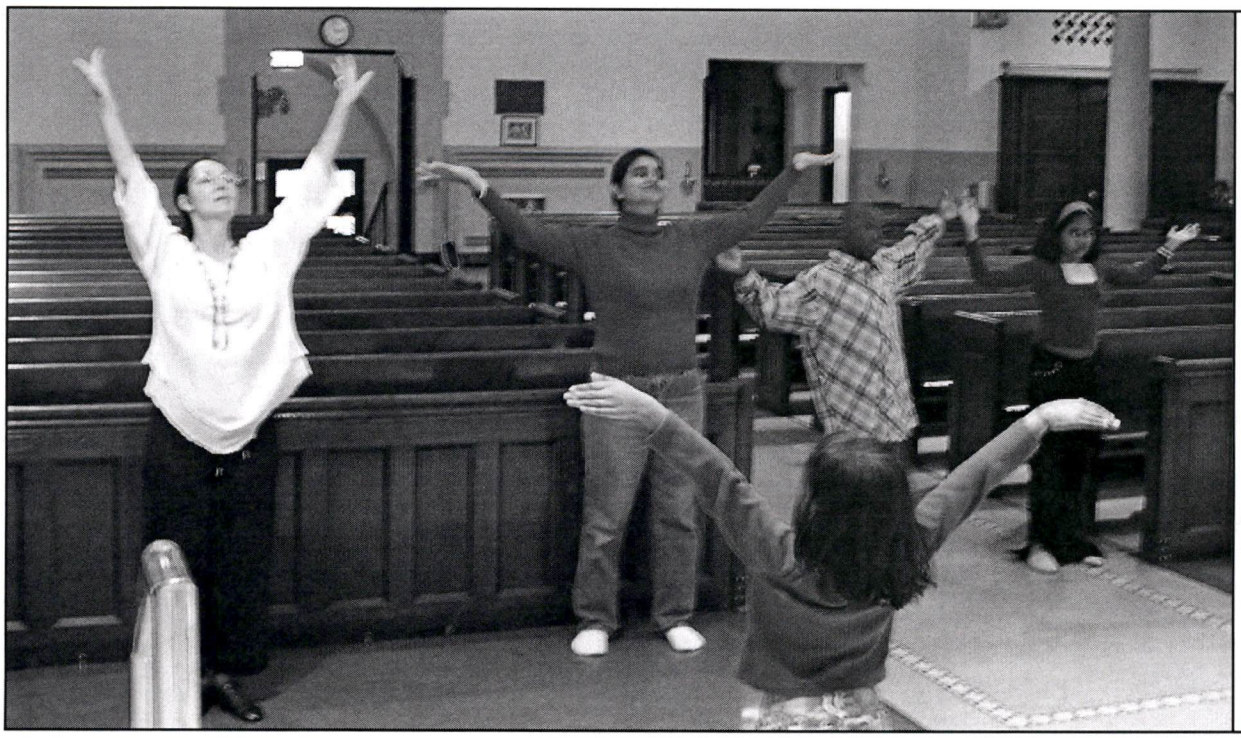
This grant will help fund a free public lecture-demonstration by sacred dance pioneer Carla DeSola. The event is scheduled for Friday evening, September 29, at a Chicago-area church to be announced soon.

Her topic will be "Exploring the Intersections Between Sacred Dance and Concert Dance." The evening will conclude with optional audience participation in a sacred dance choreographed for the occasion by Ms. DeSola.

New York/SW Connecticut Chapter

Our February 5th Workshop "Dancing Our Roots...Spreading Branches of Peace" at St. Stephen of Hungary Church in Manhattan was well attended with five members leading: Mary Kasakove (warm-up), Mary Christine O'Connor-Thomsen, Lauren Steele, Betsy O'Neill, and Susan Russo. There was a nice variety of good choices: fun tree dance, worship circle dances, 60's "move to your own beat," scripture (the beatitudes), to serious present-day prayer concerns. Overall there was very positive feedback.

Carol Sundquist-McCarthy, who is resigning after six years as chapter representative, danced at Zion Episcopal in Dobbs Ferry, NY on Thanksgiving to the 1620's hymn "We Gather Together." The Old New England Style instrumental arrangement was from the Canterbury Shakers, which Carol found while attending New Hampshire Festival 2002. She also danced the traditional hymn as one of the afternoon presenters at Connecticut Festival 2005.



New York/ SW CT Chapter.

RECIPROCAL AFFILIATIONS

The Sacred Dance Guild has collegial status with the following organizations: This is a reciprocal agreement whereby members of the Guild may attend activities of these organizations at the same fee their own members pay (proof of SDG membership is required). Members of these organizations may attend Guild activities in the same way.

American Dance Guild, P. O. Box 2006, Lenox Hill Station, New York, NY 10021 (212) 932-2789.

International Association for Creative Dance (IACD), 103 Princeton Avenue, Providence, RI 02907, website www.dancecreative.org.

International Liturgical Dance Association (ILDA) of NPM (National Association of Pastoral Musicians), 3215 Bellacre Court, Cincinnati, OH 45248-5005 (513) 451-6746.

National Dance Association, American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance, 1900 Association Drive, Reston, VA 22091 (703) 476-3436.

Exchanges

The Sacred Dance Guild is exchanging Newsletters and Journals with the following international members of the World Dance Alliance:

Congress on Research in Dance (CORD)
dance and the Child International (daCI)
Dance Notation Bureau
International Council of Kinetography Laban (ICKL)
International Council for Traditional Music, Ethnochoreology
Imperial Society of Teachers in Dancing
International Organization of Transition for Professional Dancers
International Dance Committee of ITI/UNESCO
Laban Institute for Movement Studies, Laban/Bartenieff Institute
Society of Dance History Scholars
WDA Americas
WDA Asia Pacific

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CALENDAR

April 11-14, 2006 - Bartenieff Fundamentals, Wesley Institute, Wesley Institute, Sydney, Australia. Contact: www.wesleyinstitute.edu.au/widmic.aso

April 21-23, 2006 - Knoxville, Tn. "Untensive" and Leadership Exchange with Diane Ault, Nashville's Interplay Regional Leader. Contact: Diane at 615-884-8074.

April 29, 2006 - Sharing of Sacred Dances, Lake Street Church, Evanston, Illinois. Contact: Michele Beaulieux at michele@workinmotion.net.

April 30, 2006 - "We Come Dancing with Mary Anthony and Matteo", St. Stephen Of Hungary church, Manhattan, NY. Contact: Betsy O'Neill at 212-535-4235.

May 10-14, 2006 - Play on the Lakeside, Door County, Wisconsin "Secrets One With Cynthia Winton-Henry. Contact: Call Jane Kaftan 920-743-6265 or Donandjane@itol.com.

May 23-June 2, 2006 - Workshop in Greece "Pilgrimage: Journey to the Source" Contact: Alton Wasson: altonwasson@comcast.net

May 24, 2006 - "We Will Dance", Colgate University Chapel, Hamilton, New York. Contact: Suzanne Gorman suzan neg1998@yahoo.com.

June 6-23, 2006 - Diving Deeply into InterPlay Leadership Program. California, Contact: interplay org-http//rs6.net/tn

June 23-25, 2006 - Regional Festival, Fredericksburg, Virginia. For details: See Potomac Chapter Calendar. Contact: Email mkgreenlaw@cox.net or call 540-373-6105

July 2-8, 2006 - "We Youth Come Dancing" Dowagiac, Michigan. For details: See Michigan State, Calendar. Contact: Email dancewithtoy@aol.com or call 269-424-3697.

July 10-16, 2006 - International Creative Arts Conference, Malaysia. Contact: Karen Liew at:cdfm@tm.net.my

July 15-17, 2006 -" Living Rituals 2006: World Indigenous Contemporary Dance Festival" Contact: WDA www.yorku.ca/wda.

July 17-21, 2006 - 6th World Dance Alliance Global Assembly "Dance/Diversity/Dialogue: Bridging communities and Cultures," Toronto, Canada. Contact: WDA www.yorku.ca/wda.

July 22, 2006 - Toronto, Canada. In conjunction with the World Alliance Global Assembly. For details see the Canadian National Chapter Calendar. Contact: call 613-726-1375 Email: wendymorrell@sympatico.ca

August 4-5, 2006 - New London, Connecticut. For details see the Connecticut State Calendar. Contact: Email karen98jos@aol.com or call 203-469-4277.

Executive Board Meetings

Annual Meeting and Summer Board Meeting: August 5-6, 2006, Connecticut College, New London, Connecticut

Sacred Dance Guild Web Site: www.sacreddanceguild.org

You can apply for membership to the Sacred Dance Guild in three ways: 1) Complete the form and return with your membership dues. 2) Join online at our website, www.sacreddanceguild.org. 3) Email to: Peggy Hoffman (see address below).

Name _____ Address_____ City_____ State/Province____
Country/Zip/Postal Code____ Phone_____ Email_____

Membership Dues:		
	1 year Domestic/International Membership	$42
	2 year Domestic/International Membership	$70
	1 year Student Membership	$25
	1 year Senior (65+) Membership	$30
	1 year Group Membership	$85
	Life Membership	$1,000

Please make checks payable to Sacred Dance Guild or charge your membership by providing the following information.
Visa ____ Mastercard____
Card Number_____
Exp. Date_____Amount Charged_____Signature _____

Please return to: Sacred Dance Guild, P.O. Box 1046, Laurel, MD 20725-1046, e-mail info@sacreddanceguild.org

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